

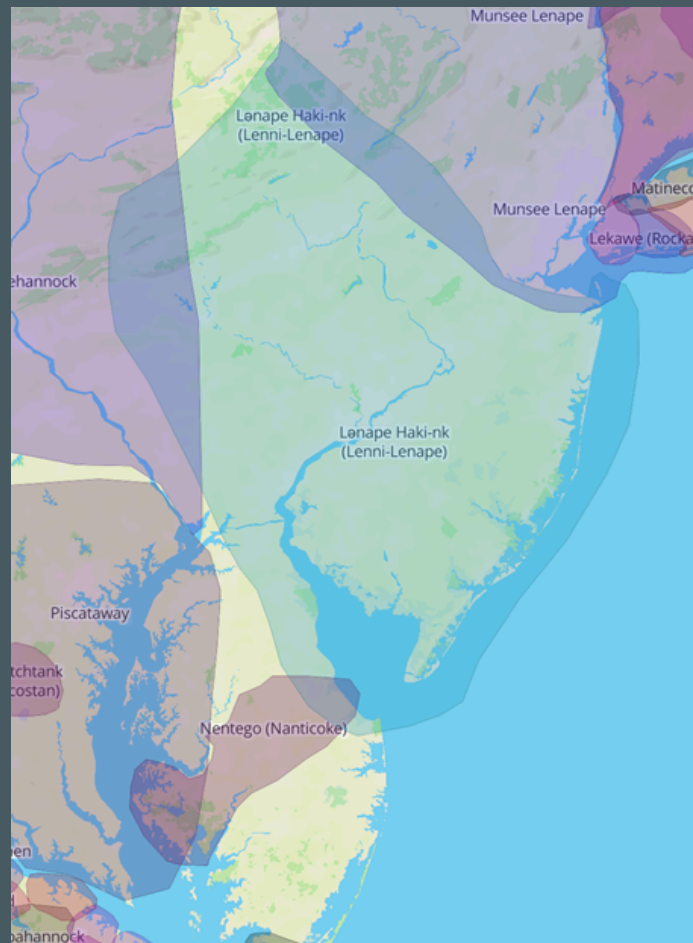
Helping You Pack: Storage, Handling and Transportation of Art



By Nylah Byrd and Magdalena Solano

Land Acknowledgement

We are presenting to you from Lenape Haki-nk, the traditional homeland of the Lenape people.



Outline

- Selecting Materials
- Prints and Drawings
- Paintings
- Objects
- Textiles
- Resources

General Guidelines

10 Agents of Deteriorations

1. Dissociation
2. Fire
3. Incorrect Temp
4. Incorrect RH
5. Light
6. Pests
- 7. Physical Forces**
8. Pollutants
9. Thieves and Vandals
10. Water

Selecting Materials

Ideal versus Non-ideal Packing Materials

Ideal: long term stability

- Papers, boards, tissue, folders, boxes & envelopes: acid free, lignin free
- Plastics and foams:
 - Inert polyester: mylar, polyester batting, stockinette
 - Polyethylene: Tyvek, volara
- Textiles: Unbleached cotton or linen

Non- Ideal: short term stability

- Papers, boards, tissues, folders, boxes & envelopes: Non-archival grade, cardboard
- Plastics and foams:
 - polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
 - Styrofoam
 - polyurethane
- Textiles: ones produced with bleaches, dyes, and other chemicals and colorants

Tape

Not all tape is created equal

- Tape is made of a carrier, and an adhesive

Painter's tape



Packing tape



Electrical tape



Weak
adhesive

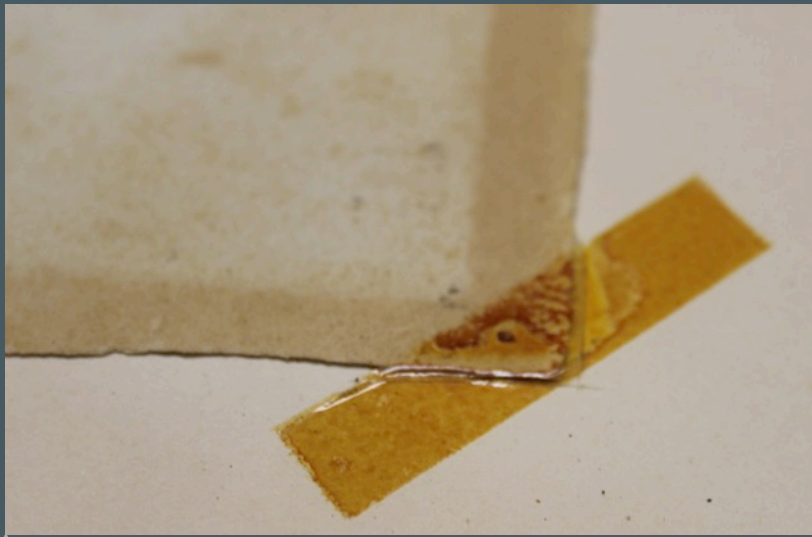


Strong
adhesive

Prints and Drawings



Framing



- Avoid pressure-sensitive tape, especially rubber based
- Double sided 3M- 415 has proven to be stable in housings/enclosures

Mounting



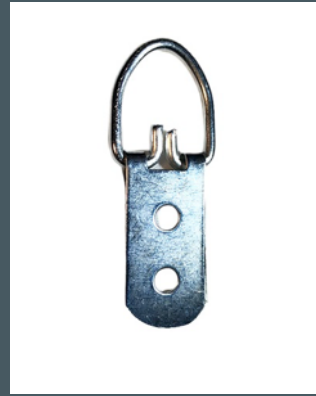
Conservation-wiki.com Photo courtesy of
Susannah Kendall



	Pros	Cons
Glass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Least expensive • Rigid, doesn't warp or bend • Good for microclimate cases • Low electrostatic charge (good for friable media) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can break and damage artwork <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Laminated: will stay in place • Heavy • Careful of old glass
Acrylic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light weight • Doesn't shatter like glass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More permeable than glass, not effective for microclimate cases • Expands and contracts under temperature fluctuations • Can warp and deflect • Scratches easily
Optium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All pros of acrylic + • Anti-reflective • Less static charge than glass • Blocks 99% UV • Doesn't easily abrade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As permeable as regular acrylic • Expands and contracts under temperature fluctuation • Can warp and deflect • Most expensive



Eye hooks



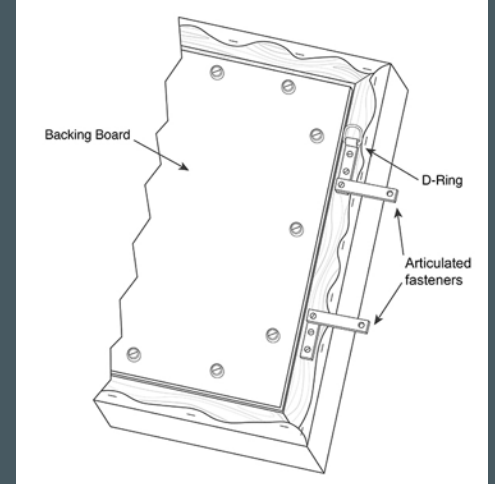
D-Rings



Oz Clips - for Travel Frames



French Cleats



Canada.ca - CCINotes

Hanging Hardware

Shipping Unframed Prints

- Highly valuable prints- ship in crate or hand deliver
- Flat vs Rolled- risk assessment

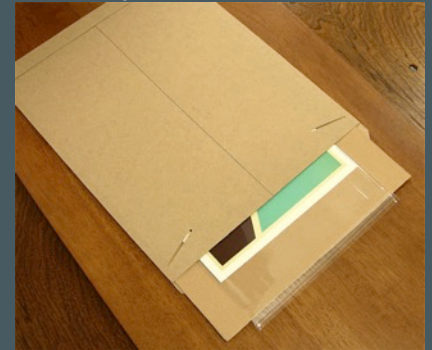
Rolled

- Thick mailing tubes
- Assess the risk to inks, dyes, and paper



Flat

- Protect corners - extra board buildup recommended
- Glassine or acid free tissue as filler layer
- Use thick boards
- Do Not Bend stickers
- Beware of condensation buildup with plastics



Paintings

Storage

- Store paintings vertically
- Ideally do not have them in contact with each other.
- Face-to-face / back-to-back
- Avoid storage in uncontrolled temp or humidity like attic or basement

STORAGE: Non-ideal



shutterstock.com



remodernreview.wordpress.com

STORAGE

- Paintings or drawings should be kept away from light when stored
- Avoid fluctuating temperature and humidity
- Keep 4-5 in above the ground if close to flood zones



Packing

- Avoid placing any material directly on the surface
 - Let surface dry thoroughly before putting anything on the surface
-

Packing: Avoid placing any material directly on the surface



justpaint.org

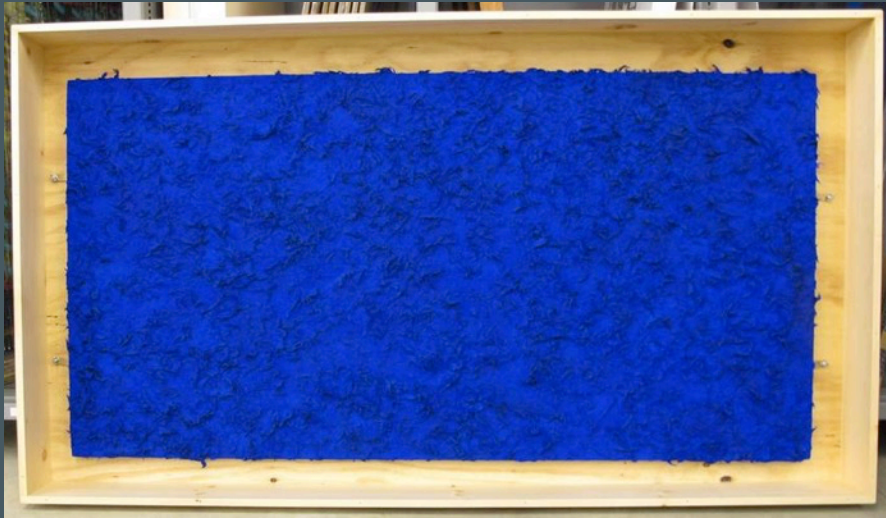


justpaint.org

TRAVEL FRAMES AND COLLARS

IDEAL FOR

- Highly impastoed surfaces
- Paintings without frames
- Especially freshly painted (within one year)
- Everything



Soft wrap



CCI Notes



Travel frame



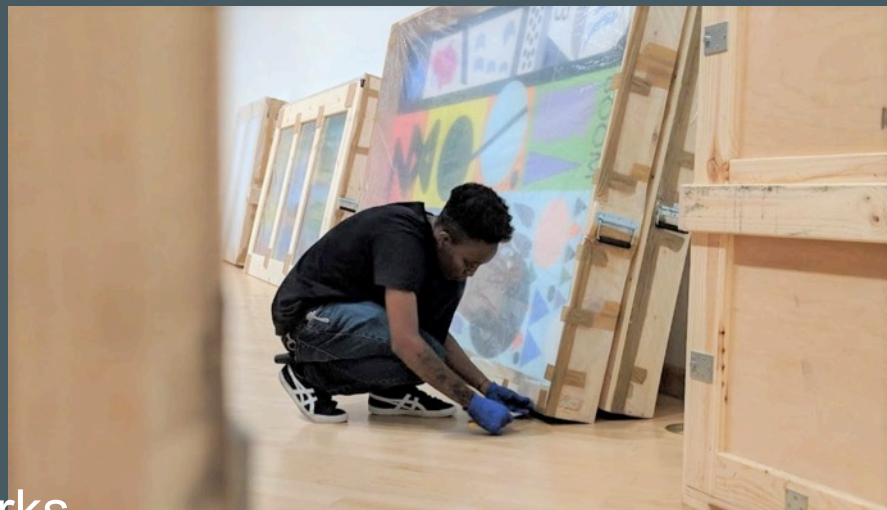
prestigiousfinearts.com

Soft packed then wrapped in a slip case



shipart.com

Collars/Raised collars/Shadow boxes



Shipping Paintings and Framed Works

Other tips

- Glass skins or tape on non laminated glass
- Cushion frame corners
- Only use bubble wrap if another material is already covering the surface (bubbles out)



Rolling Paintings

- Use silicone release mylar
- Paint side out
- Sonotubes at least 10" in diameter
 - Oversized options are available for larger works
- Peel away acidic paper or cover with blotter and mylar



<https://journals.openedition.org/ceroart/3186>

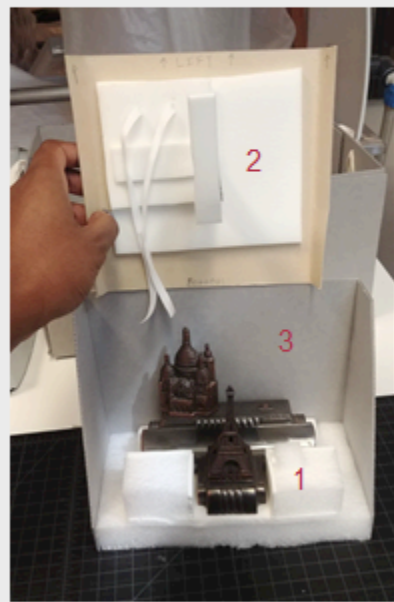
Objects

Packing

- Secure loose parts
 - Prevent surface abrasion
 - Keep it simple and/or include instructions
-

REHOUSING – Objects

Loose



REHOUSING – Objects

Part 1: Base



Ethaf foam

Volara

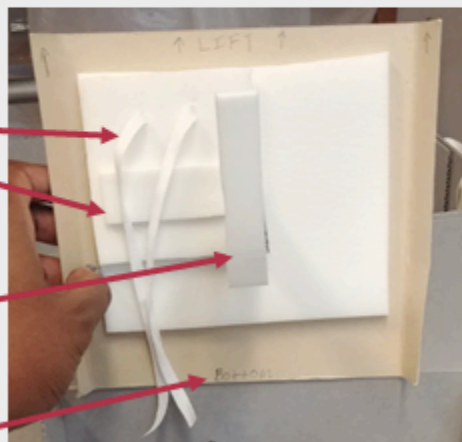
REHOUSING – Objects

Part 2: Removable Wall

Wiggle
stabilization

Flip
prevention

Spatial
label



REHOUSING – Objects

Part 3: Static Wall



Handling

- Follow instructions provided
- Use gloves when necessary
- Have a movement pathway
- Have a team when necessary





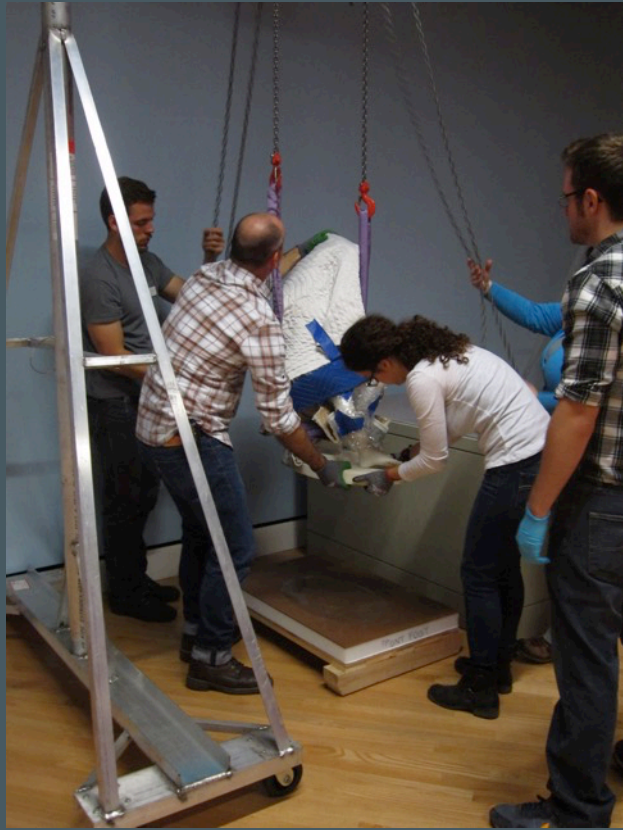
Rainbow Serpent
By Romuald Hazoumé
Mixed Media and Found
Objects
2007
National Museum of
African Art

PC: Carla Galfano



NMAfA staff and contractors working on installation of artist Romuald Hazoumè's monumental sculpture Rainbow Serpent.

Image from
africanscosmosdiary.wordpress.com

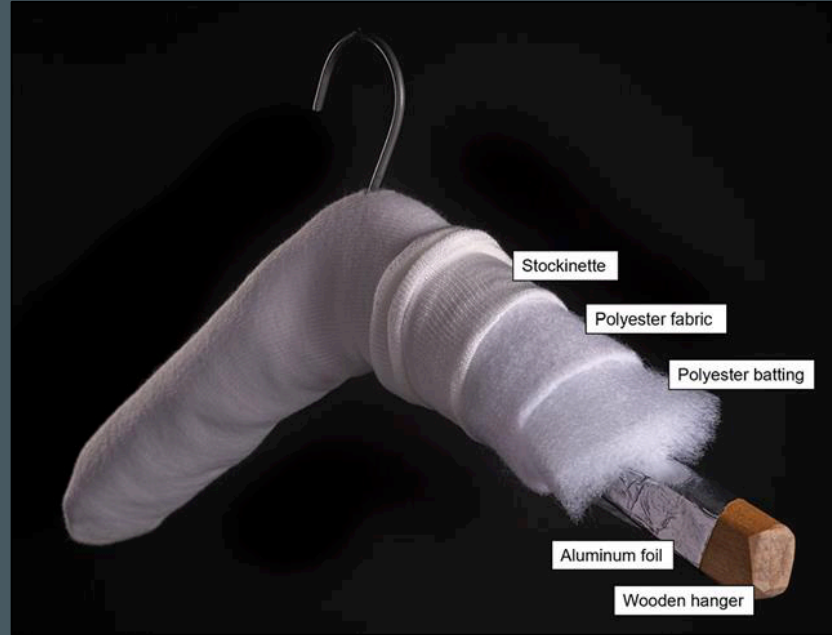
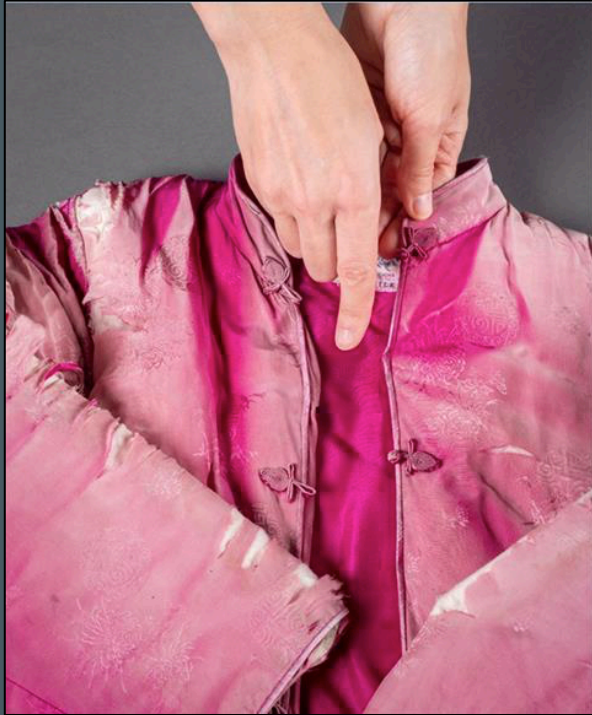


The prep team lower the sculpture onto the base of its crate after removing it from the gallery pedestal.

Image from <https://crystalbridges.org/blog/deinstalling-exhibitions/>

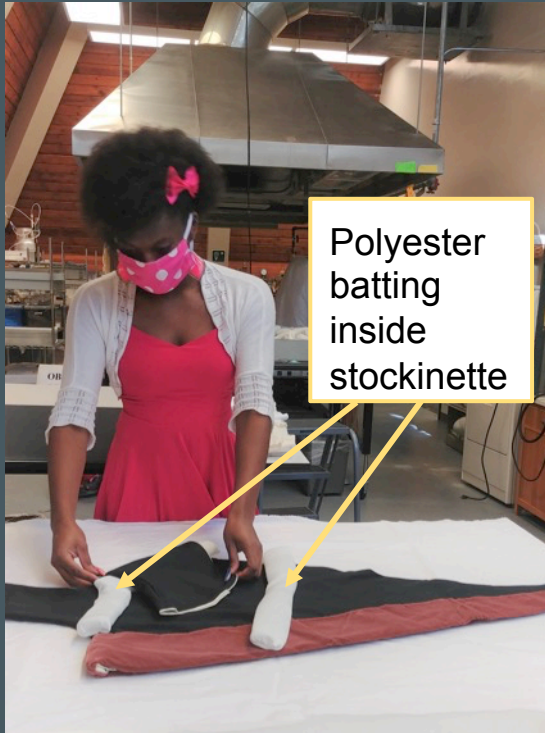
Textiles

Padding and Wrapping Textiles



Images courtesy of Winterthur Museum

Padding and Wrapping Textiles



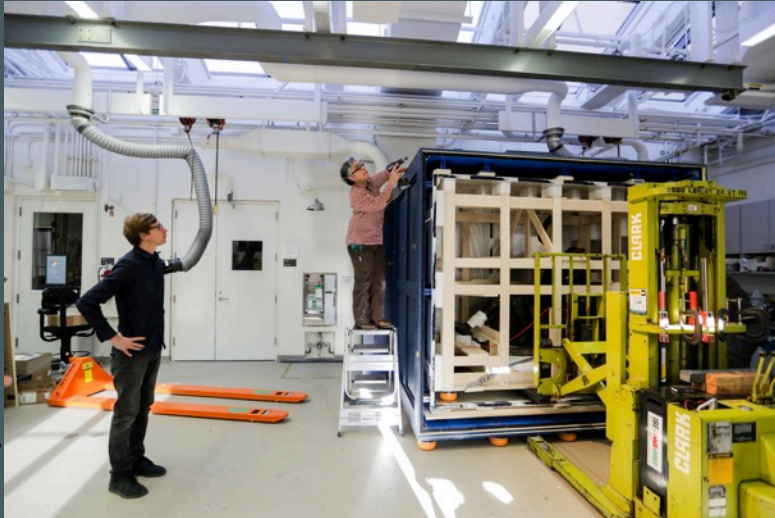
Transportation

- Courier Services
- Do It Yourself



Shipping Considerations

- Where are you sending artwork?
 - Risk assessment
 - RH, Temperature, vibrations
 - Is it worth it shipping it yourself?
- If using non-archival materials to ship, make sure all parties are aware of longevity of materials used
- Consider an art handling company for crating
- Tie down your crates and boxes



Crate by BoxArt; sculpture by Wendell Castle



Resources

General Resources

[CCI Notes](#) - The Canadian Conservation Institute has great resources for conservation in general. Notes N1/4 and N1/20 are specifically about crate making, 10/16 about wrapping a painting

[MITRA](#) - Material Information & Technical Resources for Artists

[PACCIN](#)- Preparation, Art Handling, Collections Care Information Network

[Stashc.com](#) - STASH stands for Storage Techniques for Art, Science and History and includes information about storing works of art.

[NEDCC](#) - Northeast Document Conservation Center resource on packing and shipping paper artifacts

Material Resources

[Choosing Materials for Storage, Exhibition, and Transportation](#)- A list of resources to get information on different materials

[National Park Service Conservogram](#) - Safe plastics and fabrics for exhibit and storage

[PACCIN Materials Index](#)- A compendium of materials commonly used to wrap, pack, and protect art and artifacts

[Plastic Identification Tool](#)- Historical and material information about different types of plastics

[Products Used in Preventive Conservation](#) - A critical review of products typically used for the display, storage, and transportation of objects

[The Sheer Library](#) - A resource for identifying sheer fabrics by Kris Cnossen

Art Handlers in Los Angeles

[Atelier 4](#) - Services include storage, packing, transportation, handling, and installation

[Cookes Crating](#) - Specializes in crating, storing, transporting and installing fine art

[Crozier](#) - Information about fine art storage and logistics

Acknowledgments

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WUDPAC Faculty